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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

SUBJECT The Tank Factory at Mladenovac, Serbia.

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. A newly constructed tank factory is located on Vlasko Polje near Mladenovac, Serbia. In addition to 2,300 civilian employees there is an unspecified number of Army trainees who work at the factory in order to obtain the technical experience necessary as engineer officer candidates. Until December 1948, 128 German and Austrian prisoners of war were employed at the factory as specialists, of which number only 25 Germans and one Austrian remain at present.
2. The director of the factory is Major Anton Kurt, a Communist, and his assistant is Captain Boris Ede, a Soviet engineer and a former employee of 6 Air Base. The director of the school for Army trainees is Military Employee Engineer Globuca. The chief of construction is Vladimir Podborcenic. The factory directorate is located in Belgrade. Barracks have been built in which to quarter the Army trainees and factory guards, while apartment buildings were constructed near the factory for the use of officers and engineers.
3. The factory facilities comprise the following sections:
 - a. A 380 kilowatt power plant.
 - b. An unspecified number of laboratories.
 - c. Drafting offices.
 - d. Foundries of unspecified types.
 - e. Four Siemens furnaces for melting steel.
 - f. Carpenter shops.
 - g. An electric workshop.
 - h. A motor workshop, now being lengthened from its former 53 meters to 180 meters.
 - i. A tank assembly shop.
 - j. Machine workshops containing 53 turning lathes and scrapers. The scrapers

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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are of Swiss, Swedish, German, and to an unspecified extent, Yugoslav manufacture.

- k. A machine section equipped with 27 "glodalice"*.
 - l. Equipment for testing motors and transmission boxes.
 - m. A smithy containing various hydraulic presses and steam-driven hammers.
 - n. A tool shop.
 - o. A heating plant.
 - p. A water tower.
- 4. Plans for the tanks produced in this factory are based on those of the Soviet T-34, with certain additions and improvements on the original model. Among these improvements are:
 - a. A water pump, a ~~naikha~~ pump, and an oil pump.
 - b. A transmission box.
 - c. A twelve cylinder "V" engine.
 - d. A small two-wheeled trailer with a carrying capacity of 500 liters each of oil and water.

These improvements have added eight tons to the weight of the tank and have reportedly increased its speed from 45 kilometers to 53 kilometers per hour. The improved pumps are being fitted to old tanks.

- 5. Since December 1948, up to which time 23 transmission boxes had been produced, the daily output of transmission boxes has been from four to five units. The production of the first box required one and one-half months. The wheels of the tanks, which the Yugoslavs continue to call T-34's, are made at the factory at Mladenovac, while the transmission box cogs are made in Rakovica. The drill presses and scrapers used in the Mladenovac factory are produced in Zagreb. Swiss grinding machines are used in the manufacture of tank axles. The piston rings used in these tanks are 150 mm. in diameter and each unit requires 24 minutes to produce. All the machines in the Mladenovac factory are new and modern, but there is a lack of specialists to operate them. The factory director, Gurt, stated that the loss of the German and Austrian prisoners of war would be deeply felt, since they were specialists and capable workers.
- 6. The aircraft instruments factory formerly located at Kranj has been transferred to Mladenovac. In November 1948, new lead-processed (sic) Messerschmidt Me-109 and Me-110 (Daimler Benz 601) planes were taken apart at this factory, reportedly in order that they might be studied in preparation for domestic production.
- 7. The factory at Mladenovac is guarded by a brigade of unidentified troops and cannot be approached by any save authorized personnel.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: The Serbian word "glodalice" is derived from the verb "glodati"--to gnaw.

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